

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UR, US,PFOR,PDIP

SUBJECT: SMUN REAL PROPERTY TAX PROBLEM

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED A NOTE VERBALE DATED JUNE 6, 1975 FROM SMUN CONCERNING THE PAYMENT OF REALY PROPERTY TAXES ON THE BUILDING OWNED BY THE SOVIET MISSION AT 136 EAST 67 STREET. THE TEXT OF THE INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THE NOTE IS AS FOLLOWS:

"FOR A PERIOD OF SEVERAL YEARS, NEW YORK CITY AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN SENDING SMUN A BILL DEMANDING PAYMENT OF REAL ESTATE TAXES ON REAL PROPERTY BELONGING TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE USSR -- BHE BUILDING LOCATED AT 136 EAST 67TH STREET, WHICH IS BEING USED AS OFFICIAL HEADQUARTERS OF SMUN, UKRAINIAN MISSION AND BYELORUSSIAN MISSION. AS USUN WELL KNOWS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH GENERALLY ACCEPTED PRINCIPLES AND NORMS OF MODERN INTERNATIONAL LAW, CONSOLIDATED SPECIFICALLY IN THE 1961 VIENNA CONVENTION ON DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, PREMISES OF DELEGATIONS, THEIR FURNISHINGS AND OTHER PROPERTY IN THEM ARE FREE OF ALL STATE, REGIONAL AND MUNICIPAL TAXES, DUES AND DUTIES.

"REAL ESTATE OF SMUN REFERRED TO AT ABOVE CITED ADDRESS IS CHARTED ON NEW YORK CITY TAX MAP AS BLOCK 1401, LOT 42.

"SMUN WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO USUN FOR TAKING NECESSARY STEPS TO BAR IMPOSITION OF TAXES BY NEW YORK CITY AUTHORITIES ON PREMISES OF SMUN AND ENDING OF BILLING BY THESE AUTHORITIES OF TAXES ON THIS REAL PROPERTY SINCE THE BEGINNING OF ASSUMPITON OF OWNERSHIP ON JANUARY 26, 1962."

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2. WE ARE TAKING IMMEDIATE ACTION TO ASCERTAIN WHAT PROBLEM

EXISTS BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK AND SMUN IN EFFORT TO RESOLVE PROBLEM.
BENNETT

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